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FOIA(b) (3) - 10 USC 424 - DIA, NRO and NSA

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 3 NOFORN

SUBJ: THIS IS IR NO. [REDACTED] (U)

THIS IS AN INFOR REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL

1. (U) COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)/ALGERIA (AG)/BOLIVIA (BO)/
BRAZIL (BR)/CZECHOSLOVAKIA (CZ)/LEBANON (LE)/MEXICO (MX)/
NICARAGUA (NU)/PARAGUAY (PA)/SPAIN (SP)

2. (U) REPORT NUMBER: [REDACTED]

3. (U) TITLE: TERRORISM - MONTONERO TRAINING AND PLANS FOR
OPERATIONS IN ARGENTINA AS OF 7909 (U)

4. (U) PROJECT NUMBER: AB

5. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION: 791006-791029

6. (U) DATE OF REPORT: 791101

7. (U) DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 791006-791029, BUENOS
AIRES, ARGENTINA

8. (U) REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

9. (U) ASSESSMENT: [REDACTED]

10. (U) ORIGINATOR: [REDACTED]

11. (U) REQUEST EVALUATION: NO

12. (U) PREPARING OFFICER: [REDACTED]

13. (U) APPROVING AUTHORITY: [REDACTED]

14. (U) SOURCE: [REDACTED]

15. (U) SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DIRC-NO; NOFORN CAVEAT APPLIED TO
PROTECT SOURCES AND SENSITIVE COLLECTION METHODS UTILIZED.

16. (U) SUMMARY: THIS REPORT PROVIDES INFORMATION CON-
CERNING MONTONERO TRAINING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, EQUIPMENT IN USE AND
PLANS FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS TO BE CONDUCTED IN ARGENTINA.

22. (U) DETAILS:

A. (U) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] DISCUSSED THE RECENT BOMBING OF THE (KLEIN) RESIDENCE
ON 790926 IN THE SUBURBS OF BUENOS AIRES.

[REDACTED] THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING RECENT MONTONERO
ACTIVITIES:

(1) IN 7904, IN SAENZ PENA, CHACO PROVINCE (3436S,
05832W) AT A ROUTE CONTROL POINT; A MAN WAS FOUND CARRYING A TAPE
CASSETTE IN A SMALL BAG. UPON PLAYING THE CASSETTE, SECURITY
FORCES DISCOVERED THAT IT CONTAINED A BRIEFING FROM MONTONERO
LEADER (FIRMENICH)

WHICH PROVIDED INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS AND
GENERAL PROPAGANDA INFORMATION.

(2) IN 7908, IN POSADAS, MISIONES PROVINCE (2730S, 05550W)

A WOMAN WAS APPREHENDED BY SECURITY FORCES WHILE TRYING TO CROSS
THE BORDER WITH WHAT APPEARED TO BE A STEREO-RECEIVER. UPON
EXAMINATION, IT WAS DISCOVERED TO BE A TELEVISION INTERFERENCE
DEVICE. ALSO FOUND ON THE WOMAN WAS A BAG WITH INSIGNIAS AND
BADGES OF THE MONTONERO "ARMY". WITHOUT GOING INTO GREAT DETAIL,
SOURCE INDICATED THAT THERE WERE AN ASSORTMENT OF BADGES, PINS,
STARS - ONE BADGE WHICH SOURCE IDENTIFIED HAD A (FAL) 7.62 RIFLE
WITH A LANCE CROSSING THE RIFLE. UNDER QUESTIONING, THE WOMAN
REVEALED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING OTHER MONTONEROS. IN
7809, SHE LED SECURITY FORCES TO A GROUP IN CORDOBA, CORDOBA
PROVINCE (3124S, 06411W) WHICH WAS PREPARING TO OPERATE WITH TV
INTERFERENCE EQUIPMENT. THE GROUP WAS FOUND WITH EIGHT (8) STEREO
SETS SIMILAR TO THE ONE FOUND ON THE WOMAN. IN ADDITION TO THE
TV-INTERFERENCE EQUIPMENT NEW WEAPONS WERE FOUND. FROM CORDOBA,
THE INVESTIGATION LED TO BUENOS AIRES TO WHAT WAS, ACCORDING TO
SOURCE, THE "NORTH COLUMN" WHOSE HEAD WAS (MENDIZABAL)
ACCORDING TO SOURCE, THIS COLUMN ALLEGEDLY CONTAINED (PLUS/MINUS)
SEVENTEEN (17) PEOPLE. THE COLUMN WAS ARMED WITH "UZI" AND
"STERLING" SUB-MACHINEGUNS, "BROWNING", "STAR", AND "SMITH-WESSON"
PISTOLS, AND U.S. GRANADES MANUFACTURED IN 7902 PACKED IN PORTU-
GUESE CONTAINERS. ALSO FOUND WERE SOVIET AK-47 RIFLES. SOURCE
DESCRIBED TWO TYPES OF RECENTLY INTRODUCED MONTONERO GROUPS WHICH
ARE GOING BY THE ABBREVIATIONS "TEA" AND "TEI". DEFINITIONS: TEA
(TROPAS ESPECIALISTAS DE AGITACION), PROPAGANDA SPECIALISTS, TROOPS
RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPAGANDA OPERATIONS, SUCH AS INTERRUPTION OF TV
BROADCAST.

TEI (TROPAS ESPECIALISTAS DE INFANTERIA) SPECIAL
INFANTRY TROOPS WHICH

ARE THE NEW COMBAT ELEMENT OF THE
MONTONEROS. IT WAS THIS GROUP THAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BOMBING
OF THE WALTER (KLEIN) HOUSE. WHEN ASKED [REDACTED] WHERE THE MONTONEROS
WERE TRAINING OVERSEAS, SOURCE RESPONDED THAT THE PRINCIPLE TRAINING
GROUND FOR THE COMBAT UNIT WAS IN LEBANON WHERE THEY WERE BEING
TRAINED BY THE PLO. SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE COMBAT GROUP WAS WELL
TRAINED, WELL DISCIPLINED, AND EFFICIENT. HE MENTIONED THAT THEY

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HAD CONSIDERABLE MONEY BECAUSE THE VEHICLES THAT THEY WERE DRIVING HAD BEEN PAID FOR IN CASH (HE DID NOT MENTION ANY SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF MONEY).

B. (S//NOFORN)

C. (S//NOFORN)

THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING MONTONERO TRAINING ABROAD

(1) HE INDICATED THAT THE TRAINING WAS SUBDIVIDED INTO SEPARATE COURSES WHICH WERE BEING CONDUCTED IN LEBANON.

- COURSE ONE: INDIVIDUALS IN THIS COURSE RECEIVED NO MILITARY PREPARATION. THEY LATER SERVED AS CONTACTS AND COURIERS. THE COURSE IS 30-DAYS IN DURATION AND THERE ARE BETWEEN SIX (6) AND SEVEN (7) STUDENTS IN THE COURSE AT ONE TIME.

- COURSE TWO: THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED TO TRAIN "TEI" PERSONNEL AND IS ALSO 30-DAY IN DURATION. STUDENTS RECEIVE INSTRUCTION IN ARMS, MARKSMANSHIP, AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS (TO INCLUDE EXPLOSIVES). TEN (10) STUDENTS ARE TRAINED IN THE COURSE AT ONE TIME.

- COURSE THREE: THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED TO TRAIN "TEA" PERSONNEL AND, AGAIN, IS 30-DAYS IN DURATION. STUDENTS ARE INSTRUCTED IN THE THEORETICAL AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF RADIO/TELEVISION TRANSMISSION. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY SIXTEEN (16) STUDENTS IN THE COURSE AT ONE TIME.

(2) IN EXPLAINING THE COURSE MATERIAL, SOURCE INDICATED THE FOLLOWING:

- ARMAMENT INSTRUCTION INCLUDED CHARACTERISTICS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF WEAPONS, ASSEMBLY/DISSEMBLY, MAINTENANCE, AND METHODS USED TO HIDE AND TRANSPORT WEAPONS. LIVE FIRING EXERCISES ARE CONDUCTED USING ALL AVAILABLE WEAPONS.

- SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING INCLUDES TYPICAL COMMANDO "HIT AND RUN" TYPE INSTRUCTION, WHICH EVENTUALLY LEADS TO A PRACTICAL EXERCISE BEING CONDUCTED BY THE WHOLE GROUP.

- EXPLOSIVES TRAINING IS DESIGNED TO INSTRUCT THE STUDENTS IN THE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF EXPLOSIVES, DESTRUCTIVE POWERS, AND UTILIZA-

TION. "TNT" IS USED EXTENSIVELY IN THE INSTRUCTION.

- ELECTRONICS TRAINING GIVES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO INTERRUPT TV TRANSMISSION AND THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THESE TRANSMISSIONS.

(3) SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE FOLLOWING WEAPONS WERE UTILIZED DURING THE TRAINING:

- 9MM FRENCH MACHINEGUN (MAT)
- 9MM ISRAELI SUB-MACHINEGUN (UZI)
- M-16 USA RIFLE
- 7.62 GERMAN G-3 NATO RIFLE
- 9MM UNITED KINGDOM STERLING MACHINE-PISTOL
- 7.62 SOVIET/CHINESE AK-47 VARSOVIA ASSAULT RIFLES
- REMINGTON SHOTGUN USA (CALIBER UNKNOWN)
- .22 CAL SPANISH STAR PISTOLS
- .38 CAL SOVIET TOKAREV PISTOLS

D. (C//NOFORN)

THE FOLLOWING AMPLIFYING INFORMATION CONCERNING MONTONERO TRAINING, MOVEMENT, AND PLANS:

(1) ACCORDING TO SOURCE, IN 1979 (MFI) APPROXIMATELY 100 TO 200 INDIVIDUALS FROM ARGENTINA WENT TO VARIOUS TRAINING BASES IN LATIN AMERICA AND EUROPE FOR INCORPORATION IN THE MONTONERO MOVEMENT. HE INDICATED THAT HE KNEW OF THREE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD BEEN RELEASED FROM CONFINEMENT UNDER THE RIGHT OF OPTION PROGRAM WENT ABROAD AND RETURNED TO ARGENTINA AS MONTONEROS. THE 100 TO 200 INDIVIDUALS (EXACT NUMBER UNKNOWN) WENT TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS.

(2) THE ONES WITH NO PREVIOUS CONNECTIONS TO THE MONTONERO MOVEMENT (I.E., NO POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION) WERE SENT TO A BASE IN MEXICO. SOURCE INDICATED THAT HE KNEW OF AT LEAST 25 WHO WENT TO THIS TRAINING BASE. AT THE BASE THEY WERE INSTRUCTED IN PROPAGANDA, MONTONERO PHILOSOPHY, ETC. TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, NO REAL MILITARY TRAINING TOOK PLACE AT THIS LOCATION. THE INDIVIDUALS WITH THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FROM THIS GROUP OF 25 WERE SENT TO LEBANON FOR TRAINING IN COMBAT OPERATIONS AS DESCRIBED BY SOURCE "B".

(3) SOURCE INDICATED THAT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA, AND EUROPE WERE USED AS TRAINING BASES. MONTONERO COMBAT ELEMENTS WERE TRAINED IN ANGOLA AND HAD BEEN ACTUALLY UTILIZED IN COMBAT OPERATIONS AGAINST ELEMENTS OPPOSED TO THE MARXIST REGIME THERE.

(4) SOURCE INDICATED THAT PROPAGANDA AND INTELLIGENCE TRAINING WAS RECEIVED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. (SOURCE COULD NOT SAY WHO WAS DOING THE TRAINING).

(5) SOURCE RELATED THAT INDIVIDUALS ALSO RECEIVED TRAINING IN SPAIN AND ALGERIA. HE DID NOT HAVE EXACT NUMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS TRAINED IN EACH COUNTRY, BUT DESCRIBED HIS INFORMATION AS EXTREMELY ACCURATE AS TO THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

(6) WITH THIS, HE MOVED BACK TO LATIN AMERICA AND STATED THAT NUMEROUS MONTONEROS WERE (AT ONE TIME) INCORPORATED INTO THE SANDINISTA MOVEMENT AND FOUGHT ALONGSIDE THE SANDINISTAS IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST (SOMOZA). WITH THIS, HE MENTIONED THAT THE MONTONEROS LOANED 25-MILLION DOLLARS TO THE SANDINISTA MOVEMENT PRIOR TO SOMOZA'S DOWNFALL. PART OF THE MONTONEROS WHO WENT TO NICARAGUA WERE ALSO TRAINED IN CUBA.

(7) CONCERNING THE PRESENT SITUATION IN ARGENTINA, [REDACTED] ASKED SOURCE HOW MANY INDIVIDUALS INFILTRATED-BACK INTO ARGENTINA WITHIN THE RECENT PAST. HE INDICATED THAT APPROXIMATELY FORTY (40) HAD REINFILTRATED ARGENTINA (HE WAS NOT SURE). PART OF THIS FORTY WERE INVOLVED IN THE KLEIN BOMBING. SOURCE INDICATED THAT EXCEPT FOR ONE OR TWO "STAY-BEHINDS" MOST OF THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN THE KLEIN BOMBING HAD PROBABLY LEFT THE COUNTRY WHICH WAS PART OF THEIR TACTICS; IE

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CONDUCT THE OPERATION AND DEPART QUICKLY BEFORE SECURITY FORCES
CAN TRACK DOWN THE GROUP. [REDACTED] IF HE KNEW WHERE
FIRMEINICH (MONTONERO LEADER) WAS. HE RESPONDED THAT FIRMEINICH
WAS STILL IN NICARAGUA BECAUSE HE HAD RELATIVE FREEDOM OF MOVE-
MENT THERE. SINCE THE SANDINISTA TAKE-OVER IN NAICARAGUA, HE
HAS RETURNED TO EUROPE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS FOR SHORT PERIODS,
BUT LATEST INFORMATION INDICATES THAT HE IS STILL IN NICARAGUA.

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POINTS WITHIN ARGENTINE BORDER SECURITY AND THAT MONTONEROS
WERE ENTERING FROM PARAGUAY, BRAZIL, AND BOLIVIA. THEY CON-
DUCTED SURVEILLANCE OF VARIOUS POTENTIAL POINTS AND ENTERED
WHERE CONTROL WAS LAX.

(8) AS FAR AS THE NUMBER OF MONTONEROS THAT ARE PRESENTLY
OVERSEAS, SOURCE INDICATED THE BEST FIGURE HE COULD COME UP WITH
WAS FOUR-HUNDRED (400). HE INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTED RENewed
ACTIVITY BY MONTONEROS IN ARGENTINA IN THE COMING YEAR. HE ALSO
MENTIONED THAT THE ARGENTINE ARMY WAS CONCERNED THAT THE MONTON-
EROS MIGHT ATTEMPT TO START AN URBAN-TYPE GUERRILLA MOVEMENT IN
BOLIVIA IN THE NEAR FUTURE DEPENDING UPON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.
(C/NOFORN) COMMENT:

A. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING LATEST
MONTONERO DEVELOPMENTS IN ARGENTINA [REDACTED] AMEMB
BUENOS AIRES CABLE DTG 102009Z OCT 79, SUBJ: CURRENT INTELLI-
GENCE; AMEMB BUENOS AIRES CABLE DTG 241953Z OCT 79, SUBJ: TER-
RORIST THREAT IN ARGENTINA; AMEMB BUENOS AIRES CABLE DTG 282136Z
SEP 79, SUBJ: ATTACK ON KLEIN HOUSE.

B. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BASED ON INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM SOURCES OF
THIS REPORT, PLUS SEPARATE SOURCES INDICATED IN CITED REPORT AND
CABLES; INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE MONTONEROS HAVE THE CAPABILITY
TO CONDUCT SPECTACULAR OPERATIONS, PROBABLY AGAINST GOA AND NOT
FOREIGN PERSONNEL, (LIKE THE KLEIN BOMBING) IN THE
FUTURE. IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT ALL EFFORTS WILL BE TAKEN ON
PART OF THE ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES TO IDENTIFY ANY FUTURE
INTRODUCTION/INFILTRATION OF EITHER COMBAT (TEI) OR PROPAGANDA
(TEA) ELEMENTS INTO ARGENTINA. IT CAN ALSO BE EXPECTED THAT IF
ANY SUCH INDIVIDUALS ARE IDENTIFIED THEY WILL BE ELIMINATED;
PROBABLY WITH LIMITED OR NO PUBLICITY.

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SUBJ: THIS IS IR [REDACTED]

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINISHED INTELLIGENCE

1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA
2. REPORT NUMBER: [REDACTED]
3. TITLE: TERRORISM-MONTONERO ATTACK ON ECONOMY MINISTRY OFFICIAL
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 79011-790928
6. DATE OF REPORT: 790928
7. DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790911-790928, BUENOS AIRES
8. REFERENCES: [REDACTED]
9. ASSESSMENT: ALL SOURCE [REDACTED]
10. ORIGINATOR: [REDACTED]
11. REQUEST EVALUATION: OMIT
12. PREPARING OFFICER: [REDACTED]
13. APPROVING AUTHORITY: [REDACTED]
14. SOURCE A. BUENOS AIRES HERALD 790928 B CLARIN 790928 C LA OPINION 790928 D LA NACION 790928 F AMEMB MEMO DTD 790911 F AMEMB TELEGRAM 7636 DTG 141932Z SEP 79 G BUENOS AIRES HERALD 790921 H AMEMB TELEGRAM 8038 DTG 271415Z SEP 79 [REDACTED]

15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DIRC-NO CAVESTS USED TO PROTECT SOURCES AND INFORMATION. A PUCHED VERSION OF THIS IR WITH 8 ENCLOSURES FOLLOWS
16. IN IR FORWARD TERRORIST-RELATED INFORMATION IN TWO PARTS:
A. PART ONE DEALS WITH THE 790927 BOMBING OF THE RESIDENCE O GUILLERMO WALTER KLEIN, JR, SECRETARY OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC COORDINATION OF THE ARGENTINE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY IN A SUBURB OF BUENOS AIRES TO INCLUDE: EXPLOSIVE USED, MODUS OPERANDI OF THE TERRORISTS, IDENTIFICATION OF THE MONTONERO GROUP AS THE ORGANIZATION BEHIND THE ATTACK AND SPECULATION AS TO THEIR MOTIVATION FOR CONDUCTING THE ATTACK.
B. PART TWO PROVIDES BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE ATTACK TO INCLUDE: RECENT INFILTRATION INTO ARGENTINA OF MONTONEROS, AND THE KILLING OF TWO LEADING MEMBERS OF THE GROUP.

22. DETAILS: 1. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE A, AT 7:35 AM LOCAL TIME ON 790927, BETWEEN TEN AND FOURTEEN HOODED TERRORISTS, WEARING LIGHT BLUE FATIGUES SIMILAR TO THOSE WORN BY BUENOS AIRES PROVINCIAL POLICE, ARRIVED AT THE OLIVOS SUBURB HOME OF DR KLEIN. THEY ARRIVED IN SEVERAL VEHICLES, INCLUDING TWO PICK-UP TRUCKS. THE TERRORISTS OBTAINED ENTRY INTO THE HOME (GUARDED BY FOUR SECURITY MEN PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED TO DR KLEIN-ONE OR MORE OF WHOM APPEARED

TOTALLY UNRESPONSIVE TO THE ATTACKERS AS A RESULT OF THE INITIAL SHOCK OF THE ATTACK ITSELF) AND ENGAGED IN A GUN BATTLE WITH THE TWO GUARDS WHO REMAINED ALERT TO THE SITUATION. THESE TWO GUARDS FIRED AT THE ATTACKERS, BUT WERE KILLED BY MACHINEGUN FIRE. THE TERRORISTS THEN PLACED EXPLOSIVE CHARGES IN STRATEGIC AREAS OF THE HOME, AND RETURNED TO THEIR VEHICLES, WHEREUPON THEY HURLED HAND GRENADES INTO THE HOME TO SET OFF THE CHARGES. THE VEHICLES DEPARTED. THE WHOLE OPERATION LASTED SOME 7-10 MINUTES.

2. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE B, THE ATTACKERS USED 30 KG OF DYNAMITE. THE ATTACKERS, ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT SOURCES QUOTED BY SOURCE B, WERE PLO-TRAINED MONTONEROS. OTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SOURCE B: THE TERRORISTS USED SOME FIVE FGRO FALCONS; NUMEROUS WOMEN WERE AMONG THE TERRORISTS; GROUP MEMBERS PATROLLED THE STREET WHILE THE ATTACK WAS BEING CONDUCTED; THE EXPLOSIONS DAMAGED NEARBY HOMES; ARGENTINE POLICE AND ARMED FORCES OFFICIALS REPORTING TO THE SCENE INCLUDED THE FEDERAL POLICE, 1 CORPS ARMY, BOMB SQUAD, AND XPLOSIVES AND MILITARY HEALTH BRIGADE; AND THAT THE KLEIN BOMBING WAS THE THIRD ATTACK, WITHIN A PERIOD OF 18 MONTHS, AGAINST A MEMBER OF THE ECONOMY MINISTRY. THE TWO PREVIOUS ATTACKS WERE CONDUCTED AGAINST: A. 34.8273) 0-18))-, ON 7804111, IN WHICH DE DIED; AND B. DR JUAN ALEMAN, IN WHICH HE SUSTAINED MINOR INJURIES. DR'S PADILLA AND ALEMAN HELD THE POSITIONS OF UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC COORDINATION, AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACKS.

3. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE C, A FEMALE TERRORIST DID PARTICIPATE IN THE ENTRY INTO THE HOME. ALLEGEDLY, SHE INTENDED TO KILL TWO MAIDS EMPLOYED IN THE KLEIN HOUSEHOLD, BUT AN ACCOMPLICE (MALE) URGED HER TO LET THEM GO; THE MAIDS WERE SPIRITED AWAY TO NEARBY MOVIE THEATERS FOR THE DURATION OF THE ATTACK. ADDITIONALLY, SOURCE C REPORTED, QUOTING "RESPONSIBLE SOURCES," THAT THE GROUP OF TERRORISTS HAD ENTERED ARGENTINA RECENTLY, ALONG WITH TWO MONTONERO LEADERS, HORACIO MENDIZABAL AND ARMANDO CROATTO; THE TWO WERE KILLED ON 790920 IN THE BUENOS AIRES SUBURB OF MUNRO, DURING A SHOOT-OUT WITH ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES. THE EXPLOSIVE USED WERE "TROTYL" [REDACTED] COMMENT: TROTYL IS AN ACRONYM FOR TNT).

4. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE D, A FOREIGN NEWS AGENCY RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL ATTRIBUTING THE ATTACK TO THE MONTONERO GROUP. SAME SOURCE REPORTED THAT SIMILAR MATERIALS WERE USED IN THE BOMBING OF AN APARTMENT IN WHICH NAVY CINC ADM LAMBRUGHICINI AND HIS FAMILY RESIDED [REDACTED] MENTION WAS ALSO MADE OF TWO FURTHER, AND APPARENTLY SIMILAR, ATTACKS MADE, IN 1975 AGAINST BA POLICE CHIEF BRIG GEN CESARIO CARDOZO, AND FEDERAL SECURITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS, THE LATTER OF WHICH RESULTED IN 18 DEATHS AND 66 PERSONS INJURED.

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5. ~~IN~~ SOURCE E, DATED 790911, REPORTED TERRORIST-RELATED INFORMATION, FROM WHICH THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF EXTRACT: "...SOURCES ADVISED THAT THEY HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT BETWEEN TEN AND FIFTEEN MONTONERO MEMBERS HAVE ENTERED THE COUNTRY...SOURCES BELIEVE THIS IS THE FIRST PART OF A GROUP OF THIRTY WHO WILL BE RE-ENTERING ARGENTINA. SOURCES STATED THAT THESE FORCES WERE TRAINED IN ANGOLA..."

6. ~~IN~~ ACCORDING TO SOURCE F: "...AT LEAST SOME AUGUST DISAPPEARANCES RELATE TO THE BREAK UP OF AN UNDERGROUND "FAP" (FUERZAS ARMADAS PERONISTAS) CELL...THIS INFORMATION IS CIRCULATING WIDELY THROUGH THE ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES. SIMILARLY CIRCULATING IS A REPORT THAT THE MONTONEROS ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING TO INFILTRATE TERRORISTS BACK INTO ARGENTINA..." REPORT IS DATED 790914.

7. (U) SOURCE G REPORTED THAT ON 790921, TWO RANKING MEMBERS OF THE MONTONERO GROUP WERE KILLED IN A SHOOTOUT WITH ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES IN THE BA SUBURB OF MUNRO. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT: "...ONE OF THE TWO TERRORISTS IS REPORTED TO HAVE THROWN A GRENADE WHEN THE SECURITY FORCES TRIED TO ARREST THEM. BUT THE GRENADE DID NOT EXPLODE AND THE TERRORIST CHOSE TO SHOOT HIMSELF IN THE STOMACH, DYING ON THE SPOT. THE OTHER TERRORIST WAS SHOT DOWN BY THE PALIN CLOTHES MEN AFTER HE PULLED OUT A GUN AND OPENED FIRE ON THEM..."

8. ~~IN~~ SOURCE H, DATED 790927, REPORTED THAT A "SPECIAL MONTONERO COMBAT TEAM PLANNED TO REENTER ARGENTINA WITH THE PURPOSE OF ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE A HIGH ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL." PRES VIDELA WAS BELIEVED TO BE THE PRIME TARGET OF THE MONTONEROS.

[REDACTED] COMMENT: (C) OBJECT OF TERRORIST ATTACK, ALONG WITH DISCONTENT IN MILITARY LEADERSHIP CIRCLES [REDACTED] WOULD INDICATE THAT THE MAJOR SOURCE OF UNREST IN ARGENTINA IS THE HANDLING OF THE ECONOMY.

[REDACTED] COMMENT: (C) [REDACTED] HEAR THE GUNFIRE WHICH PRECEDED THE BOMBING OF THE KLEIN HOME, AT 7:35 AM ON 790927.

[REDACTED] FURTHER, SUBSEQUENT LOUD EXPLOSIONS WERE HEARD.

[REDACTED] REPORT THAT AN EYEWITNESS HAD TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD SEEN A PICK-UP TRUCK AND DODGE LEAVE THE SCENE, AND THE TERRORISTS APPEARED TO BE EXTREMELY YOUNG-BETWEEN 18YRS AND 25 YRS. TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF BOMBING WILL BE REPORTED 1BY SEP 1R.

[REDACTED] COMMENT: (C) TERRORIST TRAINING IN ANGOLA WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] COMMENT: ~~IN~~ CONCERNING THE ALLEGED SHOOTOUT OF THE TWO RANKING MONTONERO LEADERS, EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT THE PRESS ITEM (PARA 07 OF THIS IR) MAY NOT BE A COMPLETELY ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF THE EVENT. EMBASSY COMMENT: ~~IN~~ WHILE EVIDENCE IS ACCUMULATING WHICH SUGGESTS MONTONEROS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS ATTACK, SOME OF THE EVIDENCE CANNOT BE TAKEN AT FACE VALUE. UNTIL MORE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE INCIDENT, WE DO NOT WISH TO RULE OUT ALTERNATIVE EXPLANATIONS. WITH REGARD TO RELIABILITY OF SOURCES, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WE ARE INFORMED BY ARGENTINE SECURITY OFFICERS THAT CROATTO AND MENDOZABAL WERE NOT KILLED IN A SUPERMARKET SHOOTOUT BUT DIED SEPARATELY EARLIER. SOURCE E REPORTED INFORMATION FROM A SOURCE WHO HAS ON A FEW PAST OCCASIONS TRIED TO LEAD OR MISLEAD THE USG. SIMILARLY, THE INFORMATION IN SOURCE F MAY BE PARTLY DESIGNED TO SUIT THE GOVERNMENT'S PURPOSES. THESE OBSERVATIONS DO NOT CONTRADICT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS IR, BUT DO SUGGEST THAT THE SOURCE MATERIAL BE ASSESSED

[REDACTED] COMMENT: ~~IN~~ EMBASSY COMMENT WELL TAKEN. ENCLOSURE DATA (U)

EIGHT ENCLOSURES:

1. ARTICLE, BA HERALD, 790928, 1 CY, 2 PGS (U)
2. ARTICLE, CLARIN, 790928, 1 CY, 3 PGS (U)
3. ARTICLE, LA OPINION, 790928, 1 CY, 2 PGS (U)
4. ARTICLE, LA NACION, 790928, 1 CY, 3 PGS (U)
5. ANEMB MEMO, 790911, 1 CY, 2 PGS (S)
6. ANEMB TELEGRAM 7636, DTG 141932Z SEP 79, 1 CY, 6 PGS (C)
7. ARTICLE, BA HERALD, 790921, 1 CY, 1 PG (U)
8. ANEMB TELEGRAM 8008, DTG 271415Z SEP 79, 1 CY, 2 PGS (S)

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THIS MSG ANEMBASSY COORDINATED. REVW 28 SEP 1999

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~~SECRET~~